Mr. K. Karunakaran Pillai (Parur) and Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (Karunagapalli) requested the attention of Government to this subject.

Reply.—This subject is also vague, but will be considered if a separate representation is made.

45. That a separate water-cess should not be levied on the lands that may be served by the Kodayar water.

Mr. R. Nambi Iyer (Tovala) said that all lands were originally punja and were converted into wet lands when channels were opened and other irrigational facilities afforded by Government to the ryots. Water-cess was already levied in Nanjanad and the land-owners would not be able to bear any additional tax as was proposed to be levied on account of the supply of Kodayar water for irrigation.

Mr. V. Sankaranarayana Iyer B. A., B. L., (Agastisvaram) the tax in Nanjanad was already high.

Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi (Kalkulam) said that if a correct account of the water-cess hitherto collected by Government from Nanjanad and Edanad were taken it would be found that 4 times the cost of the irrigation works had been already recovered. The ryots thus looked forward to a time when even the existing water-cess would be abolished and it was hard in the circumstances that they should be burdened with additional tax on that account.

Mr. P. Mathevan Pillai (Nanjinattar Sabha, Kottar) also spoke on the same subject.

Reply.—It has been already decided that when the Kodayar water is utilized by the ryots a water-cess shall be levied. The Project itself anticipated such a cess. It is not possible to alter that decision now. Details will be settled when the occasion actually arises.

The Assembly adjourned at 5 P. M. to 12 noon on Saturday the 5th January.

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